Palace buildings at Mysore and Bangalore

61. SRI H. GANGADHARAN(Krishnaraj).—Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) who are the real owners of palace buildings at Mysore and Bangalore ;

(b) who is in possession and Management of these 2 palaces ;

(c) what was the Agreement between the Government of India and the Royal Family as well as the Government of Karnataka ;

(d) whether the agreement is still continuous or it is changed, if so, when and what is the change ;

(e) whether there is any change with regard to the possession and management of these two palaces from the hands of the Royal Family ; if so on what basis ;

(f) whether there is any scheme either proposed by the Government or by the members of the Royal Family with regard to the use of these two palace buildings ?

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS (Chief Minister).—

(a) Heirs of His Late Highness Shri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, Maharaja of Mysore.

(b) (i) The State Government have taken possession of the My ore palace excluding the residential portion occupied by the Heirs of His Late Highness Shri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar for maintenance.

(ii) It is stated that the Bangalore palace and its surrounding lands are in the possession of M/s Chamundi Hotel Private Limited, Bangalore and M/s Sri Venkateshwara Real Estate Enterprises Private Limited, Bangalore.

(c) The agreement dated 23rd January 1950 provided for payment of privy purse, ownership, use and enjoyment of private properties belonging to the Maharaja and personal privileges, etc.

(d) By virtue of the provisions of the Constitution (Twenty Sixth Amendment) Act, 1971, the Privy purse, stands abolished and personal privileges, etc, enjoyed by the Rulers, ceased to exist.

(e) Same as reply to clause (b).

(f) The question of forming a Trust for the maintenance of the Mysore Palace is being examined and the future of the Bangalore palace is under consideration. The entire question. it is hoped, will be finalised sometime soon.